

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00336 251519Z

73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SSO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /115 W

----- 087885

R 251455Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9029

INFO AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PO

SUBJ: PRESS ATTENTION TO AZORES NEGOTIATIONS

REF: LISBON 219

1. ALL THREE AM PAPERS JANUARY 25 CARRIED WASHINGTON
DATELINED FRONT PAGE ITEMS SAYING DEPARTMENT'S
SPOKESMAN HAS ANNOUNCED THAT US-PORTUGUESE TALKS ON
RENEWAL OF AZORES AGREEMENTS WILL "BEGIN AGAIN" SOON,
ALTHOUGH DATE NOT FIXED. ARTICLES POINT OUT THAT
ALTHOUGH PRESENT AGREEMENT THEORETICALLY EXPIRES
FEBRUARY 1974, SITUATION IS NOT URGENT, AS ACCORD ALLOWS
TALKS TO CONTINUE UNTIL AUGUST. THEY NOTE AMBASSADOR
PORTER HEADS US DELEGATION FOR TALKS.

2. PRESS WIRE SERVICE STORIES ARE ACCOMPANIED BY
OFFICIAL AMPLIFICATION BY GOP FONOFF SPOKESMAN,
ACCURATELY DESCRIBING TERMS OF 1971 ACCORD AS PROVIDING
ADDITIONAL SIX-MONTH NEGOTIATING PERIOD AFTER
FEBRUARY 1974.

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PAGE 02 LISBON 00336 251519Z

3. COMMENT: FONOFF'S AMPLIFICATION IS FIRST AUTHORITY STATEMENT ON PUBLIC RECORD THAT EFFECTIVE EXPIRATION IS AUGUST, NOT FEBRUARY, 1974. APPEARANCE OF WIRE STORIES AND CLARIFICATION ARE PART OF EVIDENT EFFORT BY GOP TO KEEP ISSUE BEFORE PUBLIC AND ENABLE PORTUGUESE NEGOTIATORS TO CITE "PUBLIC OPINION" AS FACTOR IN NEGOTIATIONS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE CABLE TEXT SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS REFERRED TO IN PARA 1.
SCOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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